



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PROBATION DEPARTMENT

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ROBERT B. TAYLOR
CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER

June 6, 2006

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Robert B. Taylor *Robert B. Taylor*
Chief Probation Officer

SUBJECT: **EXPANSION OF THE ARMED DPO PROGRAM**

This is to advise your Board of my intent to expand the cap of the armed Deputy Probation Officer (DPO) program from the current 40 identified positions up to a maximum of 50 positions, an increase of 10 positions. As you are aware, under Section 830.5 PC, the Chief Probation Officer has the authority to arm his/her deputies in the performance of their duties.

Currently, our armed DPOs are assigned to the following proactive suppression programs: DISARM, CLEAR, COMNET, PC 290 Sex Offender Task Force and various regional law enforcement task forces. These armed DPOs focus their efforts at:

- Targeting high-risk probationers in elevated risk situations, including late nights and weekend periods of high crime activity;
- Conducting probation patrols, search and seizure operations, and compliance checks;
- Conducting suppression activity in the community; and
- Apprehending probationers on warrant and AWOL status.

The additional armed DPOs will be assigned to our DISARM program. Since its inception in February 2000, this program has confiscated 2,394 weapons, apprehended 1,332 probationers on bench warrant status and violated over 5,158 probationers.

We have, over the course of the past year, increased the responsibilities of our DISARM DPOs without increasing their staffing levels. The proposed increase in armed DPOs would remedy this matter. In addition to the aforementioned duties, DISARM DPOs are now responsible for:

- Conducting home verification for out-of-county probation sex offenders;
- Participating in the PC 290 Sex Offender Task Force;

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- Conducting monthly warrant searches on adult sex offenders; and
- Participating in LA SAVES (collaboration with LAPD, LAUSD, City Attorney's Office and Probation in targeting gang activities and drug sales around 10 selected LAUSD schools).

It is my intent to begin the implementation of this expansion at the start of the fiscal year. Please contact me should you have any questions. I am available to meet with you at your request to discuss any concerns you may have regarding the expansion.

RBT:nm